

Murray Arts Advisory Board
Minutes for May 17, 2016

Attendance: Kevin Westenskow, Becca Spjute, Lori Steadman, Mary Ann Kirk (staff)
Excused: Wendy Richhart, Bonnie Tollefson, Carolyn Milne, Scott Mooy, Deborah Daines

1. Minutes were approved with a few board members approving the minutes via email.
2. Becca reported that a few schools are doing Arts Inc assemblies. Mary Ann will determine if she has enough funding to offer one more per school next year after she finalizes the budget for the dance festival. Becca said she is surprised how few 6th grade students indicated they are taking vocal and instrumental music next year. Mary Ann said the instrumental music teacher at Riverview said one of their programs has significantly increased. Students seem to like the new high school band teacher so hopefully the program will be maintained successfully.
3. Charlie Brown attendance was 244 and the facility seemed to work ok but the teacher was still a little resentful about sharing her space. The district thought it would work fine going forward. The secondary art show involved 206 entries with about 600 patrons. This was the highest number of entries for MHS and CHS. Murray Symphony had a great concert with 196 in attendance.
4. Cemetery storytelling assignments are completed. Mary Ann will email usher needs for Motown and 1776 performances.
5. The director for 1776 has requested some changes in the script to replace some of the profanity. We are not sure the language is historically accurate or not. The licensing company has not given permission yet. We may be able to leave out some of the language rather than replacing it with a substitute word. Mary Ann has requested a Hale Center Theater version because they typically get permission to make some language changes. Kevin suggested we include a disclaimer in the program if we have to leave the language in to let the public know that it is part of a contract. Becca noted that this show is geared to adults.
6. The Mayor did not include additional staffing in the budget. Mary Ann will be changing the 20 hour position to an administrative assistant in January 2017 so he/she can shadow her for a year to help a new director when she retires in January 2018. This is important because no one knows anything about her job. It would be a problem if she was sick. She has to carefully plan her vacations around the programming. If additional funding is not found, she will close the museum except for school tours and by appointment if a volunteer can be found.
7. Mary Ann met with school principals about the activities we will provide next year including the dance festival. She wasn't sure if they liked the idea or not. Becca said they are in the middle of testing so that wasn't surprising. Mary Ann said she talked with a few of them after the meeting and they wanted more information about the logistics.

8. The Salt Lake Tribune social media campaign involving email and facebook is being launched over the next three months. Mary Ann will compare ticket sales to last year to see if we see an increase to determine if this focus should be continued in the future. If it is successful, she may want to focus the 20 hour position on marketing for all our programming.
9. Liberty Elementary School approached Mary Ann about funding sources for an after school choir program. Becca said Viewmont has a choir program that uses volunteers. Deborah suggested via email that she would prefer to use the \$40,000 we use for music specialists for afterschool programs or our own programs. Mary Ann wasn't sure if an afterschool program would impact as many students. Becca said there are advantages and disadvantages for each. She felt that some of the students in the classroom don't like music so instruction can be difficult and distract from those students who want to learn. After school students are the ones who are really interested. But those who have not been exposed to music can benefit by instruction during the day. Mary Ann was worried about being the sole funder of afterschool programs. We have typically supported supplies that would sustain a program long term. One year we provided money to repair the bells at Horizon so their bell program could continue.
10. Mary Ann shared a new program called Clever Octopus. It is a traveling vehicle with professional artists who bring art experiences to different locations or neighborhoods. Mary Ann wondered if kids would participate if an art "van" came to their neighborhood. It would move to different locations throughout the summer. They set up a tent and tables and utilize a variety of recycled supplies. Board members thought it was worth trying. Mary Ann wasn't sure we could pull it off this year, but may explore it for next summer. We would choose locations where we know there are enough kids. We may need to create a registration process even if it is free.
11. Next meeting is scheduled for June 21 at 7 pm.